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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/512,425	02/24/2000	Susumu Kusakabe	SONY-T0280	5567

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EXAMINER

DASS, HARISH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3628

DATE MAILED: 12/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/512,425

Applicant(s)

KUSAKABE ET AL.

Examiner

Harish T Dass

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 February 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

The Examiner (Office) made the rejection base of on the best judgment and understanding of the specification and claims. Applicant is asked to review the specification and make corrections to describe the invention clearly.

Priority

1. Applicant is advised of possible benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), wherein an application for patent filed in the United States may be entitled to the benefit of the filing date of a prior application filed in a foreign country. However, foreign priority is not claimed (see Declaration and Power of Attorney page ¼).

Oath/Declaration

2. A new oath or declaration is required because signatures of inventors are missing. The new oath or declaration must properly identify the application of which it is to form a part, preferably by application number and filing date in the body of the oath or declaration. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to under 37 CFR 1.71, as being so incomprehensible as to preclude a reasonable search of the prior art by the examiner. For example, the following items are not understood:

For example:

a). ABSTRACT: Lines 1-6 "An electronic money system in which an information card which is substituted for money can be used more effectively. In an electronic money system 1 that includes plural electronic money terminal means 25X for withdrawing moneys data of a sum of money which is spent by a user from moneys data which has been deposited into an information card 50 and withdraws the moneys data of the spent money from the information card 50"

b). Summary: page 3 lines 8-10 "is read at the time when the moneys data of a sum of money which is to be paid by the user is withdrawn from the information card".

Applicant is required to submit an amendment which clarifies the disclosure so that the examiner may make a proper comparison of the invention with the prior art.

Applicant should be careful not to introduce any new matter into the disclosure (i.e., matter which is not supported by the disclosure as originally filed).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.

Claims: ALL

Example claim 1: An electronic money system including plural electronic money terminal means for withdrawing moneys data of a sum of money which is spent by a user from moneys data of a sum of money which has been deposited into an information card, wherein said moneys data of the spent money is withdrawn from said information card by any of said plural electronic money terminal means, said electronic money system comprising: said information card for accumulating utilization-history data related to withdrawal of said moneys data of the sums of spent money, covering plural times of utilization; said each electronic money terminal means for reading said utilization-history data of plural times of utilization which is accumulated in said information card, at the time when said moneys data of the sum of spent money is withdrawn from said information card; and an electronic money management means for gathering said data of utilization-histories related to plural times utilization, which have been said plural electronic money plural electronic tabulation of stored in the respective ones of terminal means, from each of said money terminal means, and for performing the tabulation.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9, as best understood, are rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke and Mori (US Pat. 6,338,048)

Regarding claims 1-9, Clarke discloses a new generation of integrated payment card (The pilot project of Swiss PTT [Pp 1; 4]) referred to as smart card, used with external devices, capable of storing information and processing transaction using built-in microprocessor [Pp 5] and initial functionality such as: debit, stored-value [Pp 6; 23], payment (transaction), current balance inquiries, and monitoring transaction [Pp 23], pre-set limit or maximum value (limit), cash-out limit, increasing the limit [Pp29 L24-L32], load value, amount charged, reducing the balance (money withdrawal), display of remaining balance [Pp 30 L12 to Pp 31 L32; Pp143], amount of transaction or purchase amount (sum of money spent) [Pp 129-130; Pp143], smart card having processor (a microcomputer), and memory [pp iii-v; Pp 1, 4-9, 13-14, 23-24, 28-33, 51, 56, 70, 86, 95, 97, 129-131, 141-144]. Clarke, explicitly, does not disclose utilization-histories and multiple transactions stored in the card storage place. However, Mori discloses an electronic transaction system for plurality of settlement condition using automatic teller

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machine where the electronic transaction system uses electronic money stored on a customer IC Card and three types of settlement conditions (connection types) [Abs; Figures 1-7; C1 L1-L65; C6 L25 to C7 L60], transmitting and receiving and updating card information [Figures 10-14; C10 L5-L65]. Thus, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosure of Clarke by adopting teaching (disclosure) of Mori to store the transaction history on the card for reducing (eliminating) the authorization time when customer purchase goods from merchant.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 CFR ' 1.111 (c) to consider the references fully when responding to this action.

i). US Pat. 5,884,271 to Pitroda, Mar. 16, 1999 "Device, System and Methods of Conducting Paperless Transactions" which discloses a Universal Electronic Transaction card (smart card) for storing, transmitting and receiving personal, accounting and transactional and financial information, use of ATM and merchant device.

ii). US Patent Number 6,003,764 to De Rooij et al (Dec. 21, 1999) "Method Of Securely Storing And Retrieving Monetary Data". This patent discloses a method

of securely storing and retrieving monetary values such as electronic checks and electronic coins.

iii). US Patent Number 5,559,887 to Davis et al (Sep. 24 1996) " Collection of value from stored value systems ". This patent discloses invention relates generally to automated systems for performing transactions, such as financial transactions, using an integrated circuit device or card.

iv). U.S. Patent 6,105,008 to Davis et al, Aug. 15, 2000 "Internet Loading System Using Smart Card". This invention discloses a value loading system using computer network for smart cards.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harish T Dass whose telephone number is 703-305-4694. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:50 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hyung S Sough can be reached on 703-308-0505. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

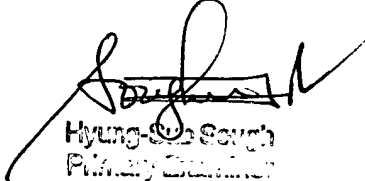
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

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Harish T Dass *HTD*
Examiner
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12/5/02
December 10, 2002



Hyung-Soo Seough
Primary Examiner